

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

June, 2017

01939

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer *all* questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss with reference to the context any **four** of the following passages : 4×5=20

(a) I have handed over, my notebook of poems
long back to Kabir.

There is no Kabir in this market.

Only I stand here.

(b) The pages of scriptures fluttering in the air

Would perch on my leaves

The songs of the sparrows

Weaving into my tresses

Became my way of life.

- (c) Our kitchen now is a graveyard
with corpses of all kinds
tins, dishes, sacks.
It hangs there in the smoke,
clouds from damp firewood.
- (d) Sermons were shouted.
Gossips were floated.
Palms were read.
Tea and biscuits were distributed.
Then, her sudden demise was sadly lamented :
- (e) Like the dot
in a question-mark
I am slipping down memory lane
And you give me
a brain-teaser !
- (f) A man with a broken heart came today
Accompanied by his lady love
Sprayed dreams and tears on the stone
And went away rowing upstream.
They will build their home in the deep forest.

2. Discuss the importance of Putta's role as a focalizer in *Samskara*. (500 words) 20

OR

In what sense can Nathu be called the conscience of the novel *Tamas* ? (500 words)

3. Discuss *Tughlaq* as a political allegory.
(500 words) 20

OR

Tughlaq is a case study of split personality.
Discuss. (500 words)

4. Attempt **one** question each from sections 4 (a)
and 4 (b): 10+10=20

- (a) Write a note on the major themes in
Mahasweta Devi's story *Salt*. (225 words)

OR

Comment on the title of Nirmal Verma's
Birds. (225 words)

- (b) Comment on the style in Indira Goswami's
The Empty Chest. (225 words)

OR

What are the reasons that provoke the
narrator to take recourse to seemingly mad
behaviour in the *Headmaster*, *Prawn*,
Chanachur? (225 words)

5. What is Premchand's vision of social change?
What is the role of literature and language in
social change? (500 words) 20

OR

What are the nuances that make *Manimahesh* an
interesting piece of travel writing? (500 words)